REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims under 35 U.S.C. §112 and 35 U.S.C. §103(a). These rejections are fully traversed below.

Claims 1, 2, 12, 14, 16, 17 and 22 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw all rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claim 23 has been canceled. Thus, claims 1-22 and 24 remain pending.

Rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 10-14, 16, 17, 20, 23, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,996,022 (*Krueger et al.*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,085,199 (*Rose*)

Claim 1 pertains to a platform-independent audio computer service which includes a system manager; a component capable of an audio event designed to run on a first platform serviced by the audio computer service; and a software object. The software object has a set of entries, wherein at least one entry is associated with the audio event and a first theme, the first theme including a first set of platform dependent audio fields, each platform dependent audio field associated with at least one audio event, wherein the first theme is arranged to permit the emulation of the audio events of the first platform.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner has admitted that *Krueger et al.* does not teach that a plurality of themes and associated audio events are packaged into a software object. (Office Action, page 4). In other words, *Krueger et al.* does not teach a <u>software object which has a set of entries, wherein at least one entry is associated with the audio event and a first theme, the first theme including a first set of platform dependent audio fields, each platform dependent audio field associated with at least one audio event, wherein the first theme is arranged to permit the emulation of the audio events of the first platform.</u> It should be noted that this software object can be utilized by the platform-independent audio computer service to provide audio services on various platforms.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has asserted that *Rose* teaches this feature. *Rose* pertains to distribution of a file in a plurality of different formats. As such, *Rose*

describes a computer system in which a network file is operable to report multiple virtual files in various formats for a single native file in storage. Accordingly, when one of the files is opened, the file system reads data from the single native file and converts the format on the fly to the destination format. (*Rose*, Abstract). It is noted that the file can be an audio file (e.g., .wav file). For example, a file system could contain a single audio file called "soundbyte.wav". However, the directory listing would present as if there were four sound files (soundbyte.wav,soundbyte.au, soundbyte.voc, soundbyte.raw) (*Rose*, Col. 4, lines 45-60).

It is respectfully submitted that the on-the-fly conversion methodology taught by *Rose* does not teach a software object in the context of the invention. Clearly, *Rose* *does not* teach a software object having at least one entry associated with an audio event and a first theme. In fact, the teaching of *Rose* does not even pertain to an audio computer service component. As such, *Rose* cannot possibly teach or suggest a platform-independent computer service. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentable over *Krueger et al.* and *Rose* taken alone or in any proper combination.

Independent claim 12 pertains to a computer-implemented method of accessing, by an audio computer service, a platform dependent audio field associated with an audio event from a first platform. Claim 12, among other things, recites importing a theme corresponding to the platform dependent audio function including at least one platform dependent audio field associated with the platform dependent audio function; and referencing the platform dependent audio field corresponding to the platform dependent audio function. In view of the discussion above, it is respectfully submitted that these features are not taught by *Krueger et al.* or *Rose*. Thus, claim 12 and its dependent claims are also patentable at least for these reasons. Furthermore, independent claims 22 and 24 are also patentable because they recite similar features.

Summary

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-22 and 24 are patentably distinct over the cited art of record. Additional limitations recited in the independent claims or the dependent claims are not further discussed as the above-discussed

limitations are clearly sufficient to distinguish the claimed invention from the cited art. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw all the rejections.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

If there are any issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension or any further fee required in connection with the filing of this Amendment is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 500388 (Order No. SUN1P223).

Respectfully submitted,
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1. (Once Amended)   [An] A platform-independent audio computer service comprising:

a system manager;

a component capable of an audio event designed to run on a first platform serviced by the audio computer service; and

a software object having a set of entries, wherein at least one entry is associated with the audio event and a first theme, the first theme including a first set of platform dependent audio fields, each platform dependent audio field associated with at least one audio event, wherein the first theme is arranged to permit the emulation of the audio events of the first platform.

2. (Once Amended)   The audio computer service of claim 1 wherein the audio computer service is implemented in Java programming language.

12. (Once Amended)   A computer-implemented method of accessing, by a[n] platform-independent audio computer service, a platform dependent audio field associated with an audio event from a first platform, the method comprising:

receiving a request for a platform dependent audio function;

importing a theme corresponding to the platform dependent audio function including at least one platform dependent audio field associated with the platform dependent audio function; and

referencing the platform dependent audio field corresponding to the platform dependent audio function.

14. (Once Amended)   The method of 12 wherein [calling] the importing of the theme corresponding to the platform dependent audio field uses a Multiplexer.

16. (Once Amended)   A software object for servicing audio events by a platform-independent audio computer service, the object comprising:

a first set of platform dependent fields which can provide audio output for a first platform; and

a set of audio events, each audio event associated with at least one platform dependent field of the first set of platform dependent fields, wherein the first set of platform dependent fields are included in a first theme which relates the first set of platform dependent fields to a first platform.

17. (Once Amended)   The software object of claim 16 further including a second theme which includes a second set of platform dependent fields for a second.

22. (Once Amended)   A[n] platform-independent audio computer service comprising:

a system manager;

a component capable of an audio event designed to run on a first platform serviced by the audio computer service; and

a software object having a set of entries, wherein at least one entry is associated with the audio event, a first theme and a second theme, the first theme including a first set of platform dependent audio fields, each platform dependent audio field of the first theme associated with at least one audio event, the second theme including a second set of platform dependent audio fields, each platform dependent audio field of the second theme associated with at least one audio event wherein the first and second themes are arranged to permit the emulation of audio events of different graphical user interfaces.